

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

In the Claims:

Please amend Claims 1, 75, 83, 104, 125, 126, 130, 133, and 142-147. Please cancel Claims 113-121 and 129 without prejudice. A complete copy of the claims including marked-up versions of each claim which is amended in this Amendment appears below.

- 1 1. (Currently Amended) A reclosable bag for filling with at least one food product,
2 said reclosable bag comprising:
3 a single sheet of web material having first, second, third, and fourth edges wherein
4 said first and second edges are respectively located opposite each other in said single
5 sheet of web material and said third and fourth edges are respectively located opposite
6 each other in said single sheet of web material, said single sheet of web material
7 comprising at least one a fold located therein intermediate said first and second edges of
8 said single sheet of web material to define two opposite sides of said reclosable bag, said
9 single sheet of web material also having two areas of structural weakness that are
10 respectively located on opposite sides of said fold, and said first and second edges of said
11 single sheet of web material being located adjacent each other to define an opening
12 ~~located at ends of said sheet of web material which are~~ therebetween which is distally
13 located with respect to said fold; and

14 a reclosable fastener structure comprising two releasably engageable tracks each
15 having a skirt structure of skirt web material extending therefrom, said reclosable fastener
16 structure being located in said fold with said skirt structures respectively extending
17 toward said first and second edges of said single sheet of web material;
18 said skirt structures each including a distal margin;
19 said distal margins of said skirt structures being respectively coupled to said web material
20 on said opposite sides of said reclosable bag at opposed locations which are respectively
21 located between said areas of structural weakness and said opening;
22 said releasable engageable tracks of said reclosable fastener structure extending ~~at least in~~
23 ~~part~~ past said areas of structural weakness and into said fold structure;
24 said two opposite sides of said reclosable bag being sealed at said first and second edges
25 of said single sheet of web material to define sides of said reclosable bag, said reclosable
26 bag being capable of being filled with at least one food product through said opening at
27 ~~said distally located ends~~ intermediate said first and second edges of said single sheet of
28 web material, following which said ~~distally located ends~~ first and second edges of said
29 single sheet of web material are sealed together to enclose the at least one food product
30 inside said reclosable bag.

- 1 2. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 1, wherein the skirt
- 2 web material is integral to the reclosable fastener structure.

Claims 3-5 (Cancelled).

1 6. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 1, wherein said web
2 material of said reclosable bag is substantially comprised of a sheet of a parent film
3 material having predetermined dimensions.

1 7. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 6, wherein the areas
2 of structural weakness are integral to said parent film.

1 8. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 1, wherein said areas
2 of structural weakness extend linearly across a predetermined dimension of said sheet of
3 web material.

1 9. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 8, wherein the
2 predetermined dimension is width.

Claims 10-13 (Cancelled).

1 14. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 1, wherein said areas
2 of structural weakness extend across a predetermined dimension of said sheet of web
3 material in a predetermined pattern.

Claim 15 (Cancelled).

- 1 16. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 1, wherein said areas
2 of structural weakness comprise scoring.

Claim 17 (Cancelled).

- 1 18. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 1, wherein said sheet
2 of web material is comprised of a multiple laminate film.

- 1 19. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 18, wherein said
2 multiple laminate film includes at least one layer of material comprising a tear path.

Claim 20-74 (Cancelled).

- 1 75. (Currently Amended) A pre-packaged cheese bag, said pre-packaged cheese bag
2 comprising:
3 a single sheet of web material having ~~at least one~~ first and second pairs of opposite
4 edges, said first pair of opposite edges being located adjacent each other to define a
5 bottom of said bag, a fold structure located midway between said first pair of opposite
6 edges in said single sheet of web material defining a top of said bag with said second pair
7 of opposite edges respectively defining two opposite sides of said bag, two predetermined

8 tear areas being located essentially parallel to and on opposite sides of said fold structure,
9 and an opening ~~located at ends of said sheet of web material which are distally located~~
10 ~~with respect to said fold structure;~~ being defined between said first pair of opposite edges;
11 a reclosable fastener structure including two releasably engageable fastener tracks
12 each having a skirt structure of skirt web material extending therefrom, said skirt
13 structures each including a distal margin, said distal margins being respectively coupled
14 to said web material on said opposite sides of said bag at predetermined locations on the
15 sides of said bag which are located intermediate said predetermined tear areas ~~opposite~~
16 ~~said fold structure;~~ and said first pair of opposite edges;
17 wherein said fastener tracks extend above said tear areas into said fold structure;
18 said two opposite sides of said bag being respectively sealed at said first and second
19 edges to define sides of said bag, said pre-packaged cheese bag being filled with at least
20 one cheese through said opening at ~~said distally located ends~~ between said first pair of
21 opposite edges of said sheet of web material, following which said ~~distally located ends~~
22 first pair of opposite edges of said sheet of web material are sealed together to enclose the
23 at least one ~~food product~~ cheese inside said ~~reclosable~~ bag.

Claims 76-78 (Cancelled).

1 79. (Previously Presented) A pre-packaged cheese bag as defined in Claim 75,
2 wherein said skirt web material is integral to said reclosable fastener structure.

Claims 80-81 (Cancelled).

1 82. (Previously Presented) A pre-packaged cheese bag as defined in Claim 75,
2 wherein said web material of said pre-packaged bag is substantially comprised of a sheet
3 of a parent film material having predetermined dimensions.

1 83. (Currently Amended) A pre-packaged cheese bag as defined in Claim 75, ~~further~~
2 ~~including at least~~ wherein said two predetermined tear areas comprise two areas of
3 structural weakness and wherein said fold structure is located between and defined by
4 said two areas of structural weakness.

1 84. (Previously Presented) A pre-packaged cheese bag as defined in Claim 83,
2 wherein said areas of structural weakness are integral to said parent film.

1 85. (Previously Presented) A pre-packaged cheese bag as defined in Claim 83,
2 wherein said areas of structural weakness extend linearly across a predetermined
3 dimension of said sheet of web material.

1 86. (Previously Presented) A pre-packaged cheese bag as defined in Claim 85,
2 wherein said predetermined dimension is width.

Claims 87-92 (Cancelled).

1 93. (Previously Presented) A pre-packaged cheese bag as defined in Claim 75,
2 wherein said areas of structural weakness comprise scoring.

Claims 94-103 (Cancelled).

1 104. (Currently Amended) A reclosable bag for filling with at least one food product,
2 said reclosable bag comprising:
3 a single rectangular sheet of web material having first, second, third, and fourth
4 edges, including at least two areas of structural weakness, said sheet of web material
5 having at least one a fold structure located midway between said first and second edges
6 and said two areas of structural weakness which are located in said sheet of web material
7 on opposite sides of said fold structure, said fold structure separating said sheet of web
8 material into front and back sides of said reclosable bag, said sheet of web material also
9 having first and second edges being located adjacent each other to define an opening
10 located at ends of said sheet of web material which are therebetween which opening is
11 distally located with respect to said fold;
12 a reclosable fastener structure having two releasably engageable fastener halves
13 each including a skirt structure of skirt web material extending therefrom, said skirt
14 structures each having a distal margin, wherein said distal margin of said skirt structure
15 of one of said fastener halves is coupled to said web material on said front side of said
16 reclosable bag between the one of said areas of structural weakness on said front side of

17 said reclosable bag and said opening, and wherein said distal margin of said skirt
18 structure of the other of said fastener halves is coupled to said web material on said back
19 side of said reclosable bag between the ~~other~~ one of said areas of structural weakness on
20 said back side of said reclosable bag and said opening;
21 wherein said fastener halves of said reclosable fastener structure extend past said areas of
22 structural weakness into said fold structure;
23 said front and back sides of said reclosable bag being sealed at said first and second
24 edges, said reclosable bag being capable of being filled with at least one food product
25 through said opening ~~at said distally located ends of said sheet of web material~~, between
26 said first and second edges, following which said ~~distally located ends of said sheet of~~
27 ~~web material~~ first and second edges are sealed together to enclose the at least one food
28 product inside said reclosable bag.

Claims 105-106 (Cancelled).

1 107. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 104, wherein said
2 areas of structural weakness define a tear off portion located therebetween, said tear off
3 portion being capable of being removed by tearing along said areas of structural
4 weakness.

1 108. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 107, wherein at least
2 a substantial portion of said reclosable fastener structure extend beyond the portions of
3 said sheet of web material when said tear off portion has been removed therefrom.

1 109. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 107, wherein said
2 fastener halves extend beyond the portions of said sheet of web material when said tear
3 off portion has been removed therefrom.

1 110. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 1, wherein said areas
2 of structural weakness define a tear off portion located therebetween, said tear off portion
3 being capable of being removed by tearing along said areas of structural weakness.

1 111. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 110, wherein at least
2 a substantial portion of said reclosable fastener structure extends beyond the portions of
3 said sheet of web material opposite said opening when said tear off portion has been
4 removed therefrom.

1 112. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 110, wherein said
2 releasably engageable tracks of said reclosable fastener structure extend beyond the
3 portions of said sheet of web material opposite said opening when said tear off portion
4 has been removed therefrom.

113.-121. (Cancelled).

1 122. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 75, wherein said
2 predetermined tear areas define a tear off portion located therebetween, said tear off
3 portion being capable of being removed by tearing along said predetermined tear areas.

1 123. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 122, wherein at least
2 a substantial portion of said reclosable fastener structure extend beyond the portions of
3 said sheet of web material opposite said opening when said tear off portion has been
4 removed therefrom.

1 124. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 122, wherein said
2 fastener tracks extend beyond the portions of said sheet of web material opposite said
3 opening when said tear off portion has been removed therefrom.

1 125. (Currently Amended) A reclosable bag for filling with at least one food product,
2 said reclosable bag comprising:
3 a single sheet of web material ~~defining:~~ having a centrally located fold separating
4 said sheet of web material into a front panel and a rear panel;
5 a said front panel having a top, a bottom, and sides; ~~and~~

6 a said rear panel having a top, a bottom, and sides, said tops of said front and rear panels
7 coinciding at said fold, ~~and~~ said sides of said front and rear panels being coupled
8 together, ~~a fold being located between said tops of said front and rear panels~~, an opening
9 being located between said bottoms of said front and rear panels;

10 an area of structural weakness located in each of said front and rear panels below
11 said tops of said front and rear panels and extending between at least a substantial portion
12 of said sides of said front and rear panels, the portion of said sheet of web material
13 located intermediate said areas of structural weakness forming a tear off portion; and

14 a reclosable fastener assembly extending between said sides of said front and rear
15 panels and comprising first and second interlockable fastener tracks each having a skirt
16 structure of skirt web material extending downwardly therefrom, said skirt structures
17 each including a distal portion, said distal portion of said skirt structure of said first
18 fastener track being oriented toward said opening and being coupled to said front panel
19 below said area of structural weakness located in said front panel, said distal portion of
20 said skirt structure of said second fastener track being oriented toward said opening and
21 being coupled to said rear panel below said area of structural weakness located in said
22 rear panel;

23 wherein at least a substantial portion of the lengths of said first and second interlockable
24 fastener tracks of said reclosable slider fastener which extend between said sides of said
25 front and rear panels extend completely above said areas of structural weakness, and

26 wherein said reclosable bag is capable of being filled with at least one food product
27 through said opening.

1 126. (Currently Amended) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 125, wherein said
2 ~~areas of structural weakness define a tear off portion located therebetween,~~ said tear off
3 portion ~~being~~ is capable of being removed by tearing along said areas of structural
4 weakness.

1 127. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 126, wherein at least
2 a substantial portion of said reclosable fastener structure extends beyond the portions of
3 said sheet of web material opposite said opening when said tear off portion has been
4 removed therefrom.

1 128. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 126, wherein said
2 releasably engageable tracks of said reclosable fastener structure extend beyond the
3 portions of said sheet of web material opposite said opening when said tear off portion
4 has been removed therefrom.

129. (Cancelled).

1 130. (Currently Amended) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim ~~129~~, 125, wherein said
2 fold is located intermediate said areas of structural weakness.

1 131. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 125, wherein said
2 areas of structural weakness comprise a hermetic seal.

1 132. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 125, wherein at least
2 a substantial portion of said areas of structural weakness extend in a direction which is
3 generally parallel to said first and second interlockable fastener tracks.

1 133. (Currently Amended) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 125, wherein said
2 distal portions of said skirt structures of said first and second fastener tracks are
3 releasably coupled to each other, thereby forming a peelable hermetic seal.

1 134. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 125, wherein said
2 areas of structural weakness are integral to said web material.

1 135. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 125, wherein said
2 sheet of web material comprises a multiple laminate film.

1 136. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 135, wherein said
2 multiple laminate film comprises at least one layer of material comprising said two areas
3 of structural weakness.

1 137. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 125, wherein areas of
2 structural weakness comprise perforations.

1 138. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 125, wherein areas of
2 structural weakness comprise microperforations.

1 139. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 125, wherein areas of
2 structural weakness comprise scoring.

1 140. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 125, additionally
2 comprising:

3 at least one tear tape structure coupled to said web material and adjacent to at least
4 one of said areas of structural weakness.

1 141. (Previously Presented) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 125, additionally
2 comprising:

3 notches in said sides of said front and rear panels which are located adjacent
4 opposite ends of said areas of structural weakness.

1 142. (Currently Amended) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim ~~125~~, 143, wherein
2 opposite ends of said first and second fastener tracks respectively located at sides of said
3 front and rear panels are sealed together, thereby retaining said slider thereupon.

1 143. (Currently Amended) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 125, ~~wherein said~~
2 additionally comprising a slider that is moveable on said first and second fastener tracks
3 between opposite ends of said first and second fastener tracks to selectively engage said
4 tracks together and disengage said first and second fastener tracks, thereby respectively
5 closing and opening said reclosable bag.

1 144. (Currently Amended) A reclosable bag for filling with at least one food product,
2 said reclosable bag comprising:
3 a single sheet of web material having first, second, third and fourth edges and
4 including at least one a fold structure which is centrally located therein midway between
5 said first and second edges which fold structure separates said sheet of web material into
6 front and rear sides of said reclosable bag, two predetermined tear areas being located in

7 said sheet of web material on opposite sides of said fold structure and defining a tear off
8 hood portion which is located intermediate said two predetermined tear areas, and an
9 opening located at ends of said sheet of web material which are distally located with
10 respect to said fold structure; being defined between said first and second edges; and
11 a reclosable fastener structure including two releasably engageable fastener tracks
12 each having an integral skirt structure of skirt web material extending ~~therefrom~~, from a
13 bottom side thereof, said integral skirt structures each having a distal margin, wherein
14 said distal margin of said integral skirt structure of one of said fastener halves is oriented
15 toward said opening and coupled to said web material between the one of said tear areas
16 and said opening on said front side of said reclosable bag, and wherein said distal margin
17 of said integral skirt structure of the other of said fastener halves is oriented toward said
18 opening and coupled to said web material between the other of said tear areas and said
19 opening on said rear side of said reclosable bag;
20 wherein at least a substantial portion of said fastener tracks extend entirely above ~~at least~~
21 ~~a substantial portion of~~ said areas of structural weakness into said ~~fold structure; tear off~~
22 hood portion;
23 wherein said front and rear sides of said reclosable bag are sealed at said third and fourth
24 edges;

25 wherein ~~said areas of structural weakness define a tear off portion located therebetween,~~
26 said tear off hood portion ~~being~~ is capable of being removed by tearing along said areas
27 of structural weakness; and
28 wherein said reclosable bag is capable of being filled with at least one food product
29 through said opening ~~at said distally located ends~~ between said first and second edges of
30 said sheet of web material, following which said ~~distally located ends of said sheet of~~
31 ~~web material~~ between said first and second edges are sealed together to enclose the at
32 least one food product inside said reclosable bag.

1 145. (Currently Amended) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 144, wherein said ~~tear~~
2 ~~areas define a tear off portion located therebetween, said tear off portion being~~ hood is
3 capable of being removed by tearing along said tear areas.

1 146. (Currently Amended) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 145, wherein at least a
2 substantial portion of said reclosable fastener structure extends beyond the portions of
3 said sheet of web material opposite said opening when said tear off ~~portion~~ hood has been
4 removed therefrom.

1 147. (Currently Amended) A reclosable bag as defined in Claim 145, wherein said
2 fastener tracks extend beyond the portions of said sheet of web material opposite said
3 opening when said tear off ~~portion~~ hood has been removed therefrom.